

**IISC Virtual Meeting Minutes-
10 AM EST, Wednesday, May 18, 2022**

1. Welcome, roll call and introductions: – IISC chairperson Michael Warner

Council members present:

Michael Warner, (IISC chair) President of ArborTerra Consulting, Inc., representing industry, mwarner@arboterra.com
Megan Abraham, Director, Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology, representing Department of Natural Resources, MAbraham@dnr.in.gov
Eric Fischer, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator, representing Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife, efischer@dnr.in.gov
Rick Haggard, Executive Director, Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association, representing industry, haggard.rick@att.net
Matthew Kraushar, Roadside Maintenance Specialist, representing Indiana Department of Transportation, mkraushar@indot.in.gov
Phyllis Boyd, Director, representing Indianapolis Parks & Recreation, phyllis.boyd@indy.gov
Heather Reynolds, Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in Biology, Indiana University representing research, hlreynol@indiana.edu
Kate Sanders, Resource Specialist, representing Indiana State Department of Agriculture, kasanders1@isda.in.gov
Joe Schmees, Executive Director, representing Indiana Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, representing land trusts, joseph-schmees@iaswcd.org
Kelli Werling, Director of Swine Health Programs, representing Indiana State Board of Animal Health, kwerling@boah.in.gov
Steve Yaninek, Professor of Entomology, representing Dean of Agriculture, Purdue University, yaninek@purdue.edu

Other attendees:

Elizabeth Barnes, Exotic Forest Pest Educator, Purdue University, barne175@purdue.edu
Phyllis Boyd
Ray Chattin, legislative chair (chair is Will Drews), State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management (SICIM)
Philip Marshall, Forest Health Specialist, Indiana Dept of Nat Resources, Division of Forestry, PMarshall@dnr.IN.gov
Stephanie Schuck, Executive Director, State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management (SICIM), stephanie@sicim.info
Dan Shaver, State Forester, NRCS Indiana, daniel.shaver@usda.gov
Dawn Slack, State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management (SICIM), Project Coordinator / (Chair) IISC Invasive Plant Advisory Committee, dawn@sicim.info
Les Zimmerman, former SWSD supervisor in Terre Haut, helping with III/SICIM proposal, zimmerman.les@gmail.com

2. Adoption of agenda (M. Warner): Additions to the agenda: (1) Reauthorization of IISC set to expire July 2023, (2) Update on IISC account. M. Kraushar motioned to accept agenda with additions. Motion seconded by. J. Schmees. Motion carried.

3. Review and approval of minutes from the 9 November 2021 IISC meeting (M. Warner): After minor amendments, H. Reynolds motioned for adoption of the prior meeting minutes with corrections.

Motion seconded by M. Abraham. Motion carried.

4. Election of IISC Chairman:

- Matt Kraushar Motion by J. Schmees to approve Matt Kraushar as the next IISC chair, motion seconded. by H. Reynolds. Approved unanimously. Matt agreed to let Mike finish running the May meeting.

5. IISC account update

- For the period 2020-2021
- Opening balance \$8,715.85
- Activity – Printing for Orbis Environmental Consulting on 9-Jul-20 for \$1,660.00
- Current balance \$7,055.85
- Account resides at Purdue

6. Legislative reauthorization of IISC by July 2023

- Time to review current legislation and see if there are changes that should be considered.
- Matt Kraushar reached out to his agency about the way to move forward on this process. He will have a conversation with ISDA about the process and invited other interested to join the planned call.
- M. Warner is there an interest in expanding the Council membership?
- M. Abraham said is it easier to get the code renewed and make changes later if needed.
- J. Schmees agreed to join Matt on the call; also said we should look at the code and if there is anything we want to change, we'll need the support of the agencies.
- H. Reynolds reminded us of the proposed changes in the previous re-authorization.
 - Re-evaluate the Invasive Species Council's statute, organizational structure and responsibilities prior to its legislative reauthorization in 2022. In particular, we seek to increase the number of IISC representatives from 11 to 16, as follows:
 - a. Increase the number of industry and conservation representatives by 4 and add Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas to the list of potential conservation organizations. This increase in breadth would allow the IISC to better address the many economic and environmental issues that invasive species are causing in Indiana.
 - b. Redefine the existing Terrestrial Invasive Species Coordinator representative as the DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife Terrestrial Invasive Species Coordinator position. Add a new Insect and Plant Disease representative, to be filled by the Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology.
 - 2018-2019 IISC Report: https://www.entm.purdue.edu/iisc/pdf/IISC_2019_REPORT.pdf
- E. Fischer – may not be a good idea to pursue item b above since the agency which once committed to adding this new position, remains undecided at this time.
- M. Warner asked M. Abraham if she knew who did the original economic impact. She did not know, nor did others who were around when the Council started in 2009.
- **Action item: Matt scheduled a call with ISDA on May 31 at 1 PM. Teams link for the call will be circulated by Matt to Council members who might be interested.**

7. Update on the Terrestrial Plant Rule proposed additions (M. Abraham)

- Two steps forward and one step back
- Many new people; change in legal people in DNR
- Moving, but moving slowly
- M. Warner – South Carolina has just restricted the sale of callery pear

- M. Abraham – phase in period is just about over in Ohio

8. Legislative working group activity (M. Warner)

- M. Warner, M. Krausher, D. Slack part of group working on a legislative proposal to help move the Indiana Invasive Initiative forward beyond its current federal government cost share funding
- Conversations continue; moving in positive direction
- Ray Chattin, legislative chair of SICIM
 - Draft legislative proposal – IASWCD (Indiana Association of Soil Water Conservation District)/CCSI/SICIM joint proposal
 - Draft shared with M. Warner
 - Base request remains \$8.6 million through Indiana State Soil Conservation Clean Water Board for SICIM and CISMAs; \$4 million annually to fund Clean Water Indiana grant program.
 - D. Slack – not asking for more staff for state agencies; SICIM would take on the additional/new responsibilities
 - Les Zimmerman, former SCWD supervisor – interested in invasive species and III/SICIM effort, and sustainable production as pertain to soil conservation more broadly; CCSI (Conservation Cropping System Initiative a program of the Indiana Conservation Partnership which in turn is comprised of 8 Indiana agencies and organizations); Three components – SICIM, CCSI, local SWCDs.
 - Les Zimmerman agreed with Heather’s rationale and approach
 - J. Schmees, best to work with and through existing groups; Clean Water Indiana already exist with funding from cigarette tax and state appropriations
 - S. Yaninek asked if the draft proposal could be shared with Council
 - Dawn Slack – time to bring various groups with interests in invasive species and conservation
 - Elizabeth Barnes – linking with others is helpful for raising visibility on invasive species
 - J. Schmees - Clean Water Indiana is a state fund administered by State Soil Conservation Board; currently fund receives gets about \$4 million annual from state; only about \$1 million available for grants
 - Mike Warner – council could/should support efforts through IISC annual report and other direct communications
 - Les Zimmerman is there support from IISC to put together a professional presentation?
 - M. Warner – Council has a few dollars that might be available.
 - H. Reynolds initiative could benefit from an ecological approach; fiscal argument for SWCD/SICIM/CCSI clear. Ecologically, I see strong argument for synergy between CCSI and SICIM, for, e.g., the argument that keeping the ground covered with (noninvasive) cover crops both controls erosion and reduces opportunities for invasive plants. On the other hand, the necessity of terrestrial invasive plant removals is real, but poses threats to soil conservation, so I can see an argument being made that partnership with soil conservation groups is essential to make sure that strategies are in place to get native cover in place after removals. Again, what I'm trying to do here, is to think of explicit rationales for why we need partnerships between SICIM, CCSI and SWCDs.
 - Dan Shaver - I don't think we would want to suggest that removing terrestrial invasive plants leads to erosion. The vast majority of sites that have invasive plants removed do not need replanted and do not erode. Native plants rapidly colonize sites where invasive plants are removed. I see why you are wanting to make a connection, but I would not suggest we are creating an erosion problem by removing invasive plants.
 - H. Reynolds - I don't think we would want to suggest that removing terrestrial invasive plants leads to erosion. The vast majority of sites that have invasive plants removed do

not need replanted and do not erode. Native plants rapidly colonize sites where invasive plants are removed. I see why you are wanting to make a connection, but I would not suggest we are creating an erosion problem by removing invasive plants.

- Quick google scholar search for science on erosion risks after invasive species removal. Midwest examples did not come up on quick search, but I include some examples from other areas of the globe just to give a sense. Again, the aim here is to be transparent about the ways that invasive removals might challenge soil health to emphasize the importance of soil conservation-invasive management partnerships. I'll do some more searching.
 - 1) https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320705001692?casa_token=cpg_G4k6ODQAAAAA:N3TcHO7FiLLk4kLuKtHNZ8m71EmzeC GWLrDCackJBtxPvtEv6IViZL7jdA9-S0vy_7XOvDvymQ
 - 2) https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0169555X08002961?casa_token=yF5M1leeTDYAAAAA:diW5O_a4letA14zn5PRHqEoYpzc__C7zr7 M8XpfV0apR24VWWaTrTdgA5I26w2cacIrZJFO8jw
 - 3) https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/rec.12538?casa_token=ioSHcEi__HIAAAAA:jp-xmr0ERnPzht8ZT7gKGJBBHUF8i5DuP7WGORkd-kYFc1mC4I9EKybbB6ba-P10FoKUtmjE4tkVi5dQ
- Here's a very general paper that mentions how shallowly-rooted invasive plants result in soil erosion. The example given is for grasses, but there are invasive shrubs (like ABH) that also have shallow roots. So removing shallowly-rooted invasives is clearly key to soil conservation, as long as deep-rooted natives can be successfully restored in their place: https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0169534709001761?casa_token=j21Y7US5ZxUAAAAA:kc359VbJRml-XIPm-WFUciDOzgcBdJE24OXmunIISeyH8HQLots_rV9l_GFdZ6KXUmZBNZBV4g
- J. Schmees – can learn about various partner groups by going to their websites
- S. Yaninek supported M. Abraham's request for more information about the proposal (short and long versions) to be better informed so we can be supportive
- **Action items: Share the draft proposal/outline for invasive species support from IASWCD/CCSI/SICIM for state funding with the Council (M. Warner)**

9. IISC Biennial Report to the Legislature (M. Warner)

- M. Warner working on a draft that he will share with members
- **Action items: Draft of the IISC Biennial Report to be shared with members (M. Warner)**

10. Update on invitation to participate in a panel discussion of neighboring states invasive species activities and potential for collaboration from Minnesota Invasive Species Advisory Council. (E. Fischer)

- Minnesota meeting (Chelsey Blanki coordinator/contact) with reps from across the Midwest
 - Minnesota, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana
 - 3 or 4 had aquatic representatives
- Ohio lost council authorization, but got it back
- Discussion covered a variety of topics
 - Cooperation on regional basis
 - Group had a follow-up call that E. Fischer was unable to attend
- Regional efforts
 - Great Lakes governors premier group; aquatics have become a recent focus
 - Dawn mentioned regional efforts on plants through EDDmaps

- Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin
- MIPN, MISIN, NAIP

11. Invasive Plant Advisory Committee updates (D. Slack)

- Nothing new to report
- Started another round of plant assessments

12. Agency Reports and Updates

- Indiana Department of Agriculture (K. Sanders)
 - Clean Water Indiana grants likely due September 8th
- Indiana Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts (J. Schmees)
 - Invasive Plant ID Training for ICP (Indiana Conservation Partnership) staff
 - See ICP calendar for upcoming training events <http://icp.iaswcd.org/about/conservation-events-calendar/>
- Indiana Board of Animal Health (K. Werling)
 - Avian flu (HPAI) update – infections in multiple flocks in multiple counties at 11 sites; 34 states, 330 sites with infections across the country
 - List of all the detections across the US: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/avian-influenza/2022-hpai>
 - Chronic wasting disease – still free in Indiana, but new find in North Carolina
 - Horse diseases – one positive case of equine herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1)
- Indiana Department of Transportation (M. Kraushar)
 - Nothing new to report
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology (M. Abraham)
 - Gypsy moth treatments underway in northern Indiana
 - Farm bill funding received
 - \$169,000 for Spotted lanternfly for anything except treatment
 - Honey bee project
 - Thousand canker disease still not found in Indiana
 - Commodity crop surveys
 - Needle ants found in a park outside of Evansville
 - Cannot be eradicated, so working with park to treat as a management tactic
- Indiana Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources, Aquatic Habitat Coordinator (Doug Keller)
 - Invasive species bioblitz
 - June 1st or 2nd in SW first bioblitz in Pigeon Creek, SW Indiana
 - June 14th or 15th second bioblitz in Wilbur Wright fish and wildlife area
 - Both working closely with D. Slack and SICIMs
- Research (Heather Reynolds)
 - On a different topic mentioned earlier - invasives and climate change - here are 3 relevant articles:
 - 1) https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1749-4877.2010.00193.x?casa_token=BzDAb7bTODEAAAAA:5vx1pz1Xj8laTm9YaiBcHTqARZnkvIisUWEXkBCMEf8cs1z0gC-5DUgOdb7EWZ2saNU10B2gZ9op8gk
 - 2) <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/j.1523-1739.2008.00951.x>
 - 3) <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/j.1365-2486.2008.01824.x>

- Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association (R. Haggard)
 - Great Lakes Alliance Council meeting in September will be addressing invasive species this year
 - Concerns about needle cast disease on Norway spruce
 - M. Abraham – not yet observed
 - Everyone busy trying to find labor
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry (P. Marshall)
 - Needle cast disease on Norway spruce is stress related
 - White pine needle cast a region-wide problem
 - Problem finding labor to do the gypsy moth survey; turned to district foresters which are expensive
 - State system has no state vehicles to do the surveys
 - Beech leaf disease watch
 - Still looking for laurel wilt on sassafras
 - No thousand cankers black walnut disease (TCD) found in the state
 - Still working on (rapid) chestnut oak mortality
 - Work up north on Oak wilt
- DNR Division Fish and Wildlife (E. Fischer)
 - Attended Indiana boats and travel show; met the first lady of Indiana
 - Invasive species awareness week – various outreach efforts
 - Aquatic Invasive Species landing list outreach – June 24th to July 10th
 - Control efforts
 - 355 acres of starry stonewort macroalgae; expecting ~\$400K to \$500K to do the work
 - Early detection and rapid response – couple of nutria found near Illinois along Ohio river; no recent record (if ever) of nutria in Indiana
- Dan Shaver, State Forester, NRCS
 - Added 10 invasive species (woody shrubs, weeds, vines) now have to be controlled when using NRCS cost-shared moneys; spending >\$20 million this year through EQIP program in state
 - Should be able to get summary of NRCS funding spend on invasive species in state; most funding target invasive species
- Purdue Department of Entomology, Forest Pest Outreach (E. Barnes)
 - Time of year for spotted lanternfly egg hatch
 - Last EAB Univ webinar next week on what the future looks like for Ash
 - Leaving Purdue and Indiana, heading to Massachusetts to work for Department of Agriculture on invasive species outreach
- Purdue University College of Agriculture (S. Yaninek)
 - A replacement for Larry Bledsoe has been recruited and should be in place in June
 - Purdue Extension Invasive Species working group about to roll out a new signature program on invasive species; this includes invasive species introduction, insects/pests/pathogens, aquatic fish, aquatic plants, home landscape, forests, agriculture and native plants
- Stephanie Schuck, SICIM Executive Director
 - Working on legislative proposal; otherwise busy with everyday activities
 - Annual meeting in March with >100 participants; meeting was recorded and is available on SICIM website
 - Luncheon Network meeting tomorrow for members
 - Newsletter just distributed

- ICP trainings
- Annual SICIM conference August 17th with 7 field events planned; registration opens next week
- Funding 8 CISMAs for a variety of activities

13. New Business (M. Warner)

- None

14. Meeting schedule (2022) and action items (M. Warner)

- Next meetings: 20 July 2022, Wednesday 10 AM (virtual); 9 November 2022, Wednesday 10 AM (venue TBD)
- **Action items**
- **Share Teams link for a call with ISDA on May 31st at 1 PM to discuss reauthorization of the IISC legislation with interested members and friends of the Council (M. Kraushar)**
- **Share the draft proposal/outline for invasive species support from IASWCD/CCSI/SICIM for state funding with the Council (M. Warner)**
- **Draft of the IISC Biennial Report to be shared with members (M. Warner)**
- **Update Council members' appointments on IISC website (S. Yaninek)**

15. Adjourn: The Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Motion made by M. Kraushar and seconded by K. Werling. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.